

BANANA CLERGYMAN IN JAIL

THE TAKEN IN RAID ON SEVERANCE'S VEGETABLE PROSPECTS.

The Banana Bunch Said to Have Taken in \$300,000 in Return for Stock Peddled Partly by the Rev. Claude M. Severance. Fraud, Says Government.

If you have not already put your spare money into El Progreso Banana Company, financed by the International Finance Company, both of the Tribune Building, you are too late to get it in now, for practically the whole shebang has been pinched. It is nobody's fault but your own if you have lost this chance to put your money where it will stay for good, for the news was told on February 27 last of the great opportunity offered.

Frank G. Watrous, the president of the concern, made a trip to Honduras recently to look over the property, and so postponed action by the Post Office authorities. He returned to town yesterday morning, registered at the Astor House and went from the hotel to his office in the Tribune Building. Post Office Inspectors Kincaid and Reddy had notified Deputy Police Commissioner Flynn, and the latter sent Detectives Millmore, Armstrong and Reed down town. About 10 o'clock the inspectors and detectives entered the offices of the two companies, which adjourned, and arrested Watrous, O. W. Simmons, his brother-in-law and the secretary-treasurer of the banana company, and H. L. Harvey, the company's vice-president. While everybody was getting his coat on in walked William L. Saunders, the impressive secretary and treasurer of the International Finance Company, to attend the little reunion. He did not respect the strangers and bade them all an effusive how do ye do. He was added to the collection of exhibits.

The four prisoners were taken over to the Federal building to be arraigned. Inspector Reddy remaining behind to supervise the seizure of the company's books and literature. While he was on this job the Rev. Claude M. Severance, a director of the banana company and one of its stock selling agents and most fluent letter writers, called at the office. So he too joined the group of prisoners. United States Commissioner Shields held Watrous in \$10,000 bail, which was too large for him, and he went to the Tombs. Harvey in \$2,500, which he furnished; Simmons in \$2,500, which he couldn't furnish; the Rev. Mr. Severance in \$10,000, which he couldn't furnish, wherefore he joined Watrous and Simmons in the Tombs, and Saunders in \$2,500, which his wife gave. The inspectors were finding considerable trouble trying to find Severance in Brooklyn and Eastport, L. I., when he walked in upon Reddy.

Watrous went to Honduras in January, 1909, and visited E. M. Stuart, who had acquired what is said to be a paying banana plantation there. He got the lay of the land, organized the banana company, incorporated it in Arizona and Texas and got his mother to mortgage her home and household effects in Denver to give him some cash to start with. He arranged with the International Finance Company, which had moved up from Wall Street to the Tribune Building because of the bad reputation which Wall Street has for wickedness, to sell the stock of his new venture at 50 cents on the dollar, a commission of 40 cents on each share, turning over to the banana company in cents on the share. The finance company's officers are H. L. Harvey, president, and William L. Saunders, secretary. J. A. Brierly also has some connection with it.

This done, Watrous opened offices in Chattanooga, Tenn., and from Ceiba, Honduras, wrote glowing letters by February, 1909, he wrote that he had acquired some fine land and had begun clearing it. He had in fact applied for certain land "donations" for himself and associates as individuals, a "donation" of 1,000 acres of land, a quarter of which must be cleared, the title can be claimed. He returned to the United States, sold \$12,000 worth of stock to J. J. Foltz of Tacoma by his letters, and sent for Simmons, his brother-in-law, and his mother and sister to come to Chattanooga. He opened a bank account in Boston and displayed letters from a banker named Short of Kansas City and H. P. Ferry of Riverhead, L. I. Short later said that Watrous had merely opened a bank account with him, and Ferry supposed to have bought stock through Watrous.

About September 29, 1909, Watrous married Miss Alice Fernald of Rochester, Mass., in New York, and after getting what money the company had collected at Chattanooga returned with his bride to Ceiba. This time his letters said that the banana plants were seven feet high and he had just put more men to work. He also had more land ready for planting.

From Ceiba he and Mrs. Watrous went to Tegucigalpa, the capital, by way of Pinar Barrios, Guatemala City, San Jose and Amalaya, living as well as the country afforded. Half way on the mule train from Amalaya to the capital Mrs. Watrous was taken ill, and this kept him from arriving at the capital until November 25, 1909. There he called on Philip Reilly, the American Minister, and showed letters from Ferry, Short and the International Finance Company, started bank accounts, and got a lawyer to apply for concessions. He spent the next five months and \$5,000 or more in money trying to get a concession for 13,000 acres of land, meanwhile writing letters to this effect: "The showing of the plantation and the fruit of the trees of stock to 75 cents a share, and about \$65,000 a mile. The land is situated in this concession, Watrous secured yesterday, was swamp land, which was under water and

he next bought for \$30,000 16,000 acres of land, which the owner had offered

PAYMASTER ROBBED OF \$7,000

THREE MASKED MEN MAKE A SUCCESSFUL HOLDUP.

Money Was Meant to Pay Laborers and Teamsters on New Trolley Line Between Great Barrington and Canaan. Passes Out After the Highwaymen.

GREAT BARRINGTON, Mass., Nov. 12.—Several armed posses comprising 500 men are ready to search 200 acres of swamp between Egremont and Sheffield at daybreak for three masked men, who early this afternoon held up and robbed Paymaster R. J. Hines of the Woronoco Construction Company of Westfield, Mass., of \$7,000 in money and about \$5,000 in checks.

The Woronoco Construction Company is building a trolley line from Great Barrington to Canaan, Conn., and 600 men and 100 teams are employed. The men, who are scattered through fifteen miles of country, are paid fortnightly.

Paymaster Hines with Supt. C. A. Robinson, Deputy Sheriff Truesdell of Great Barrington and John Cronin, chauffeur, left Great Barrington in an automobile late this forenoon for the southern part of the county with \$15,000 to pay the men.

Nine thousand dollars was in money and the rest in checks.

Deputy Truesdell had accompanied the paymaster on several previous trips as guard. Arriving at Egremont, Hines, Robinson and Truesdell left the car with the grip containing the money, and after paying the men at that place Hines and Truesdell started to pay another gang.

Hines and Truesdell sat in the back seat of the automobile. Three miles southwest of Egremont is a defile between hills where the car came to an abrupt stop. Simultaneously as the car approached the grade men appeared in front and on both sides with guns. A shot was fired at one of the automobile tires. It missed the tire, but Chauffeur Cronin brought the car to a stop with the robber in front almost touching him with the muzzle of a repeating shotgun. The men at the sides of the car kept Hines and Truesdell covered. At a command the three men in the car raised their hands over their heads. One of the robbers who carried a black automatic revolver pulled open the door of the car and jerked out the bag containing the cash and checks.

After getting the grip containing \$7,000 in money and about \$5,000 in checks, \$2,000 of the cash had been left at Egremont, the highwaymen, with guns still leveled at the trio, backed into the woods, fired several times and then disappeared.

One shot knocked off Hines's hat and ploughed a furrow through his hair, but did no serious injury.

Cronin, badly frightened, threw his car into gear and the automobile started on full speed. The chauffeur drove to the nearest farmhouse with a telephone and the news of the holdup was telephoned to Great Barrington.

Chief of Police William O'Shaughnessy immediately called up Sheriff John Nicholson of Pittsfield and State Police Officer Thomas Bligh. Volunteers were called for in Great Barrington and arms were obtained at sporting goods stores. Automobiles were pressed into service, and in fifteen minutes thirty men were on the way to Egremont. Sheriff Nicholson called out all the deputy sheriffs in Berkshire county, notified the officers along the New York State line and in Connecticut and started to Egremont where he took charge of the direction of the posse. Sheriff Nicholson formed the man hunters into squads and made designations for their advance.

Within an hour after Sheriff Nicholson arrived in Egremont a skirmish line surrounded a square mile of territory near the Sheffield and Egremont town line and within five miles of the Massachusetts and Connecticut State line. Here at darkness a halt was taken and a patrol established.

To-night sentries armed with guns are walking their posts.

B. C. Beck, a farmer who lives near the Davis Woods, is the one man who saw the robbers as they carried off Paymaster Hines's bag. About 10 o'clock he noticed three men skirting the woods near his cornfield. He gave the alarm and the posse closed in, but did not enter the woods because of darkness.

It is believed that the robbers will try to break through the line to-night. They are headed for Canaan, N. Y., and the mountain which they must cross is one of the highest in southern Massachusetts. Every highway is guarded.

HURT IN AUTO UPSET

Mrs. Arthur E. Handy of Brooklyn Has an Arm Broken.

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Nov. 12.—Arthur E. Handy who lives at the Mansion House in Brooklyn, on his way to-day in an automobile to the Yale-Princeton football game lost control of his machine half a mile the other side of Bound Brook and slipped into a ditch. A lap robe flying in the wind tangled up Mr. Handy's legs and flapped in his face so that he could neither stop his car nor keep it in the road.

Mrs. Handy was caught under the machine. Her left arm was broken. Another woman, wife of a friend of Mr. Handy's, both of whom were in his party, was bruised. She and Mrs. Handy were brought four miles in an automobile to Somerset Hospital for treatment.

Mr. Handy was uninjured save for a wrenched knee. He said last night that he thought Mrs. Handy and her friend would be able to leave the hospital within a few days. The automobile was towed to a garage here.

FOOTBALL PLAYER KILLED

Munk, Captain of the West Virginia Team, Fatally Hurt in Game.

TRAIN HITS CAR; 20 DEAD

Shopping Crowd Mangled on a Grade Crossing in Kalamazoo, Mich.

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Nov. 13.—Shortly after 11 o'clock last night, a Main street trolley car, filled with people on their way home from Saturday night shopping, was struck by a westbound freight engine. Twenty persons were killed and many were injured.

The conductor was on the track flagging his car across. Some box cars and another engine standing on a side track obstructed the view. It is said the approaching train sounded no warning.

Eight of the dead have been identified. Twelve are so badly mutilated that recognition may be impossible. Among the dead are: James Brees, Ward Abbott, the motorman, who was married two months ago, William Schaeffer, Miss Bertha Kessler and Harry Holt of Centerville.

The conductor, Vern Van Horn, is in a state of nervous collapse. Before Van Horn was taken to his home he told this story of the wreck:

"We waited for a switch engine to pass over the crossing. Our car stood about fifty feet from the crossing. When the switch engine and the cars, which were running east had passed, I jumped out of the vestibule and ran ahead on the track.

"There was a number of cars standing on a siding near the crossing. An engine headed west stood at the water tank down the track a short distance from the crossing. I looked twice to make sure that the engine was not moving. Then I motioned my car ahead.

"Just as I stepped to one side to let my car pass out from behind the box cars the train came at terrific speed. I was almost directly between the street car and the train and how I escaped I do not know when the crash came."

Brees was found dead near the tracks. Miss Bertha Kessler's clothing caught on fire after the car had been wrecked. Four bodies were removed from the pilot of the engine, badly mangled.

DEMOCRATIC CONFERENCE

Senator Rayner Wants an Expression of Views by Party Leaders.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 12.—Senator Rayner recommends a conference of leading Democrats for an expression of views and an indication of the policy the party should pursue. Some such step he says is almost a necessity.

"Our majority in the next House of Representatives," said he, "will be so large as to be unwieldy. There is danger of division over minor matters when there should be absolute unity on all propositions of party policy."

"The people will expect the present Democratic representatives in Congress not merely to sit idly in their seats and wait for thirteen months until the next Congress assembles and they get the power of control, but they have indicated that they look to the Democratic party to take the initiative in the matter of tariff reform and other vital measures which are demanded by the public and which the Republican party cannot and will not give them."

"Such a conference as that suggested would serve as a sort of steering committee to the party's representatives in Congress at the short session. It will cause them to realize the trend of Democratic sentiment."

"It would show a desire to respond to public sentiment and a determination to maintain its record as the party of progress, which will mean much to it. It would serve to indicate generally to the country the policies for which the party stands and for which it will stand in the next convention."

"I think it would be better to hold the conference either late in January or early in February as it will be better to wait until after the holidays are over and everybody is settled down to the winter's work."

"It is my intention as soon as Congress assembles to confer with a number of my Democratic colleagues in the Senate on this proposition, and I believe there will be no difficulty in starting the movement and making it a success."

FEEL BOARDING SUBWAY CAR

Francis B. Beers Coaxed to a Hospital, Then Permitted to Go Home.

Francis B. Beers a stock broker having an office at 215 Montague street, Brooklyn, tried to get through the side door of a car on a subway express at Fourteenth street a few minutes before 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, missed his footing and slipped to the platform and fell. He fell to the level of the rails, bruising himself about the head and body. He was hauled out by a bystander before the train started.

An ambulance surgeon insisted that Mr. Beers go to a hospital for examination. Mr. Beers said that he was all right and would be able to go on to Brooklyn as soon as he had a chance to brush off his clothes. The doctor, however, held to his idea that something serious might be the matter and a policeman told the broker that he'd better be taken care of at the hospital.

Mr. Beers gave in, but as soon as the surgeons told him at St. Vincent's that he was right in the estimate of his own injuries he left for home.

LAND FORCE AT AMAPALA

But Yorktown Men Were Withdrawn as Fighting Didn't Materialize.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 12.—Commander Edwin A. Anderson of the gunboat Yorktown, now at Amapala, reported to the Navy Department to-day that on the evening of November 10 all the foreign warships there landed forces for the protection of foreign citizens, as an uprising against Gen. Valladares was expected. The disturbances, however, did not materialize, and yesterday morning the forces were withdrawn.

Fenton R. McCreery, American Minister at Tegucigalpa, reported to the State Department that Gen. Valladares sent a party of 100 soldiers from the island of Amapala to land near Acetuna. Within two hours after landing, the Minister said, 101 of the soldiers had surrendered to the Government garrison. These soldiers were opposed to the domination of Valladares.

Mr. McCreery added that telegraphic communication with Amapala has been interrupted.

COUNT TOLSTOY IS FOUND

IN MONASTERY OF KOSELSK IN KALOUGA PROVINCE.

Another Report Locates Him on an Estate in Tula Province. His Wife Tried to Commit Suicide When He Disappeared. He Went to Escape Luxury.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN. MOSCOW, Nov. 12.—Count Tolstoy has been found in the monastery of Koselsk in the province of Kalouga.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 12.—Advices here locate Count Tolstoy, who has been missing for some days, in the Souzky district of the province of Tula. The *Narodnaya Vremya* says he is resting on the estate of the Abrikosors.

A private telegram from Tula, capital of the province of the same name in European Russia, says that the Countess Tolstoy, wife of Count Tolstoy, who left his home on October 10 with the announced intention of spending the rest of his days in solitary seclusion, made two attempts at suicide yesterday by jumping through a hole in the ice into the river.

The letter which the Count left for his wife, in which he announced his retirement to some unknown place for the balance of his days, declares that he is unable to live any longer surrounded by luxury. He asks his wife not to seek him nor to join him if she discovers his whereabouts. He concludes the letter by begging her forgiveness for the grief which his departure will cause her.

When the Count left his home at Yasnaya Polyana he told no one of his destination. He was accompanied by Dr. Makovsky, his physician.

Count Tolstoy was traced as far as Stekolino, a few miles from his home. He drove there in a carriage with Dr. Makovsky and took a train for the south. No further trace was found of him until to-day, although his family, which has arrived at Yasnaya Polyana, organized searching parties which have been scouring the country in all directions.

Tolstoy in the letter which he left for his wife bade a touching farewell to his family. He said he wished to live in peace as a true Christian and would not return under any circumstances.

There was reason from the outset to believe that Tolstoy had gone to the monastery in the Government of Kalouga.

C. O. PRATT WENT HERE

Organizing Street Car Men, Who Are Soon to Demand More Pay.

It was learned yesterday that General Organizer C. O. Pratt of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railroad Employees has been in this city from time to time frequently within the last six months and has organized four locals of the motormen and conductors of the street car lines in Manhattan, special attention being given to the Broadway line and the Sixth avenue line, which are now in the hands of the United States courts. In the near future, it was stated, demands will be made on behalf of the men on these lines for 28 cents an hour, to be enforced by a general strike if refused.

Pratt was in this city yesterday and had a conference with W. H. Ashton, general organizer of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. Pratt then went to Philadelphia but will return to New York to-day and have another conference with Ashton in the afternoon.

The first plan was to order a strike of the trolley men and conductors in sympathy with the striking expressmen and make the occasion of enforcing demands for higher conditions. Now that the strike of the expressmen is settled the demands will be made independently.

According to a number of labor men the trolley men of the Broadway and Sixth avenue lines are well organized, the organizers doing their work secretly. The locals of the Amalgamated Association which have been formed here are Nos. 73, 142, 146 and 168. They have chapters from the Amalgamated Association and are affiliated through that body with the American Federation of Labor.

TO CONTENT LONGWORTH SEAT

Cincinnati Democrats Seek to Expel Alleged Gang Members.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 12.—Dr. Thomas P. Hart, editor of the *Cincinnati Telegraph*, who was the Democratic candidate for Congress in the First district against Nicholas Longworth, is being urged by some of his friends to contest the election of Longworth.

Dr. Hart said to-day that he would put the entire matter in the hands of the Democratic county committee, which conducted his campaign.

It is argued that a contest would give the House an opportunity to go into the methods of the so-called "Boss Cox gang." Evidence in the hands of the Democratic county committee makes it almost certain, it is said, that the seats of the Republican candidates for the State Legislature were elected on the face of the returns will be contested. Many leading Democrats favor the plan as a rebuke to the "gang," which has voted thousands of men illegally every year, it is charged by these Democrats.

POTTER AT FATHER'S BEDSIDE

After Hurry Up Journey From Alaska He Finds the Sick Man Improved.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Nov. 12.—Wilson Potter, who has been hurrying from White Horse, Alaska, to the bedside of his father, Col. Thomas Potter, arrived here this afternoon. He was met at the train by his mother and other members of the family in an automobile and taken to the Potter residence, 401 Oriental avenue. He found his father's condition much improved.

Chance played a big part in the finding of the young man, who was on a hunting tour. He and his party had short of supplies and went to White Horse, where they remained over for a day and on October 28 just as they were packing up to leave a message telling of Col. Potter's critical condition reached his son. Young Potter started for home. The train on which he traveled to Skagway from White Horse was stalled by heavy snows. The delay caused him to miss his boat at Skagway by three hours and six minutes. He waited three days for the next steamer.

PHILADELPHIAN IN A DUEL

Anthony Stewart Fights Prince With Swords in Paris and is Wounded.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN. PARIS, Nov. 12.—Anthony Stewart of Philadelphia and Prince Ferdinand de Faucigny-Lucinge fought a duel with swords near Paris yesterday. Stewart was slightly wounded and honor was satisfied.

The two men had been at loggerheads for several months. Two duels were arranged between them but the trouble was patched up. A third squabble, however, resulted in the meeting yesterday.

The cause of the trouble is of a "personal and private nature."

TAPT PHOTO TO FLOWER WOMAN

President Remembers Mrs. Beckhart, Who Gave Him Bouquet.

CINCINNATI, Nov. 12.—Mrs. Antonietta Beckhart, who sells flowers at Sixth and Race streets and presents President Taft with a bouquet whenever he visits Cincinnati, received a photograph of the President to-day with this inscription: "To Mrs. Antonietta Beckhart, with many thanks for her beautiful roses."

WHISKERS GO TO THE SENATE

John W. Kern Rejects a Friend's Advice to Shave. Says Housekeepers Approve.

DELPHI, Ind., Nov. 12.—A. B. Crampton, editor of the *Carroll county Times* and a lifelong friend of John W. Kern, sent him the following telegram of congratulation: "Heartiest congratulations. Now, John, shave off those darn whiskers. Nobody but jays are wearing whiskers."

The following letter was received by Mr. Crampton the day following: "Thanks for your congratulatory message, Dell. The last State convention by a unanimous vote endorsed the whiskers, and as the people of the State so decidedly expressed their approval of them I shall have to carry them with me to the Senate."

R. W. MEADE STONED

He Was Riding in a Fifth Avenue Bus When Strikers Assailed It.

Richard W. Meade, president of the New York Transportation Company, had a little experience yesterday in a strike disturbance. He was riding in a Fifth avenue bus when a mob of strike sympathizers gathered at Fifth avenue and Sixty-sixth street and began throwing stones and other handy things at the bus.

The windows were smashed and a brickbat crashing through the glass just missed Mr. Meade's face. Two policemen came up on the run and began using their clubs. The band scattered before any arrests could be made.

Mr. Meade was unhurt. Some others in the bus had a few slight cuts from splinters of glass.

MARY MANNERING SETTLES

Witness Who Gave Up a Job to Testify in Divorce Suit Said to Have Received \$600.

A suit brought by Martha Swenford, a nurse, against Mary Manning, the actress, to recover \$985 for testifying in Miss Manning's behalf in her divorce suit against James K. Hackett, which suit was tried before City Court Justice Green all day Friday, was settled yesterday out of court. It was said that the plaintiff got about \$600.

The plaintiff said that Miss Manning had agreed to pay her for her time because she gave up a trip to Europe with a wealthy family to stay here and testify. She said the suit dragged on for two years and that she was out \$985 in wages.

TO WELCOME AMERICAN FLEET

Big British Squadron Will Meet U. S. Ships at Portland, London Central.

LONDON, Nov. 12.—London is looking forward with the keenest interest to the arrival on Wednesday of the American fleet, "the most powerful fleet that has ever crossed to or from Europe." The first battleship division and the first cruiser squadron of the British home fleet will welcome the first division of the American fleet at Portland.

The British vessels will be the Dreadnought, flying the commander in chief's flag, the battleships *Bellerophon*, *Superb*, *Tiger*, *Temeraire*, *St. Vincent*, *Collingwood*, *Vanguard* and *Agamemnon* and the cruisers *Indomitable*, the flagship of the cruiser squadron, and the *Invincible*.

There will be no British warships at Gravesend, where the American vessels will lie. The civil authorities there will have charge of the entertainment of the visitors.

TANI KILLS A WOMAN

Mrs. Anderson Was Crossing Street and Driver Couldn't Stop in Time.

Mrs. Louise Anderson, who lived at 5 West Sixty-fourth street, was instantly killed last night by a taxicab at the corner of Broadway and Sixty-fourth street. The taxicab, belonging to the Melvin Stable Company, and driven by Joseph Kenny of 151 Rutledge street, Brooklyn, was going south on Broadway when the chauffeur saw the woman zigzagging across the street and was unable, he says, to avoid hitting her.

She was thrown several feet. Dr. Botsford of the Flower Hospital said that she had been killed outright. Witnesses said that the accident was unavoidable. Kenny was arrested.

At the station house the body was identified several hours after the accident by Mrs. M. J. Anderson, with whom Mrs. Anderson lived at 5 West Sixty-fourth street. Mrs. Anderson had no immediate relatives.

THE STREETS ARE NOT ATHLETIC FIELDS

Frank L. Jordan got a judgment for \$500 against the Otis Elevator Company in the Municipal Court for medical services for his son Harry, who was hurt by the car of a public school track team and was spraining down Seventh avenue when he ran into a truck and was injured. The Appellate Term of the Supreme Court reversed the judgment yesterday on the ground that a person who uses a public street as a running track does so at his own risk.

A NEW TRAIN

THE SOUTHERN SOUTHEASTERN LIMITED, leaving Columbia, S. C., for Savannah, Ga., on Nov. 12, 1910, through Jacksonville, Fla., at 10:25 a. m. and 10:25 p. m. Office 26 Fifth Ave., cor. 25th St., New York.

EXPRESS STRIKE

SETTLED AT LAST

Jersey City Men End It by Accepting Offer of Companies.

After receiving official word at the headquarters of the striking expressmen in Washington Hall, 781 Eighth avenue, that the strikers in Jersey City had voted to accept the proposition of the express companies, General Organizer W. H. Ashton formally called the strike off yesterday afternoon and announced that all the strikers would return to work to-morrow.

OPEN SHOP WILL OBTAIN

Men Go Back to Work To-morrow

Fifty Per Cent. Went Back Yesterday.

By the terms of the agreement the companies will reemploy their men whether they are members of a union or not. In other words the companies will conduct the open shop. The concern reserve the right to decline to take back those men who have been guilty of committing or inciting to acts of violence against the companies. Committees representing the companies and their employees who have raised a question concerning the hours and rate of wages will get together for the purpose of "reaching a settlement which shall be just and satisfactory to both parties." The present rate of wages and hours will remain in force until December 1, when the new schedule will go into effect.

The return of the strikers to work in Manhattan was contingent on the acceptance of the proposition of the express companies by the Jersey City strikers, but in spite of the declaration of Ashton on Friday night that any one who returned to work in Manhattan before the Jersey City contingent accepted the proposition of the companies would be expelled from the union the drivers and helpers in Manhattan began to return to work yesterday in a steady stream and 50 per cent. of the Manhattan strikers were back at work before the final settlement was announced. The Long Island drivers and helpers had also begun to return to work during the day.

Ashton was at Washington Hall late in the afternoon, and after he was told that the strikers in New Jersey had voted to accept the terms fixed up by Mayor Gaynor of New York, Chairman Towne of the New York Merchants Association and Mayor Wittmann of Jersey City Ashton made the following declaration in a dramatic manner:

"I hereby officially declare the strike of the express drivers and helpers off, recognizing that they have accepted the proposition offered by the companies to the men, and request them to report for work wearing their union buttons at the proper hour on Monday morning and do their utmost to clear up the accumulation of merchandise at the sheds without delay, so that the merchants will be inconvenienced as little as possible."

"I believe the express companies from their letter to Mr. Towne and their letter to the Mayor of New York will deal fairly with the different committees to hours, wages and general conditions of work to be in operation after December 1."

Ashton said that there was no time to call a meeting, and it was not necessary to call a meeting. The Manhattan strikers had agreed to the proposition of the companies subject to their approval by the Jersey City men and the strikers would see the announcement when they read the newspapers.

This is the first time a strike of the kind has been called off in such a way. Ashton's declaration will have the desired effect, however, since while there is an element among the strikers which would insist on the closed shop the strike will be ended by the stampede of men who are only too ready to return to work to-morrow.

After he declared the strike off Ashton said to the reporters:

"You want to understand that the strike of the chauffeurs and the dry goods drivers is not settled. We signed union agreements for the drivers, with four of the largest dry goods stores, but they have not all settled, and we will try to have another conference with a committee of the New York Motor Car Owners Association to settle the chauffeurs' strike. We will call a meeting of the chauffeurs in some hall for to-morrow evening to discuss their strike. We are ready to meet a committee of the association any time."

Ashton then called up License Commissioner Herman Robinson, former general organizer of the American Federation of Labor, on the telephone and informed him of the settlement of the expressmen's strike. Commissioner Robinson undertook to get in touch with Mayor Gaynor, inform him of the settlement and thank him on behalf of the employees of the express companies for his good offices in helping to bring about a settlement of the strike. He then said that the men would work eleven hours a day when they went back and would be paid overtime at the rate of 25 cents an hour.

The statements which have been made from time to time on behalf of the strikers that the men had not been paid overtime were denied on behalf of the United States Express Company by General Superintendent Campbell yesterday, who also made the denial on behalf of the other express companies. He said that there was a general misunderstanding as to the question of overtime, and there had been an erroneous impression that no

EXPRESS STRIKE

SETTLED AT LAST

Jersey City Men End It by